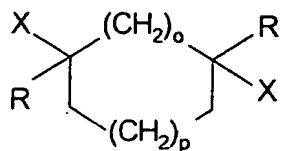


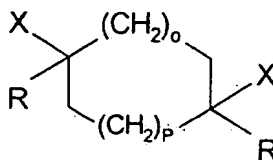
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

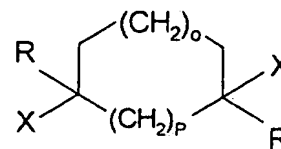
Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A substituted cycloalkane of the ~~formula~~ formulae Ia, Ib, and Ic:



Ia



Ib



Ic

~~where~~ wherein

R is C₁-C₆-alkyl[~~[,]~~];

X is halogen, OR¹ or OCOR¹, ~~where~~ wherein R¹ is C₁-C₆-alkyl[~~[,]~~]; and

o = 1 and p = 2, or

o = 1 or 2, p = 2 or 3 and o + p = 4, or

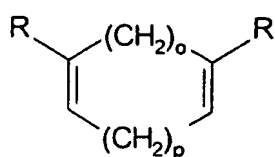
o = 1 or 2, p = 3 or 4 and o + p = 5.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein
~~in which~~ R is methyl.

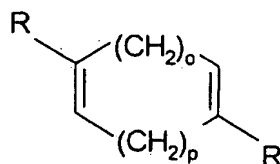
Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The compound as claimed in claim 1, wherein
~~or 2 in which~~ X is chlorine.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The compound as claimed in claim 1, selected
from ~~among~~ the group consisting of 1,4-dichloro-1,4-dimethylcyclooctane, 1,5-dichloro-1,5-
dimethylcyclooctane and mixtures thereof.

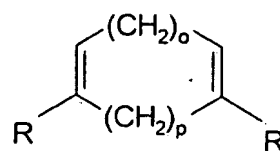
Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a substituted cycloalkane of the ~~formula~~ formulae Ia, Ib ~~oder~~ , and Ic as claimed in claim 1, which comprises reacting a cycloalkapolyene of the ~~formula~~ formulae IIa, IIb ~~oder~~ , and IIc



IIa



IIb



IIc

with a compound HX at below 40°C, where the symbols R, X, o and p are as defined in claim 1.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the compound HX used is gaseous hydrogen chloride.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The process as claimed in claim 5 ~~or 6~~, wherein the cycloalkapolyene of the formula II used is 1,5-dimethylcycloocta-1,5-diene and/or 1,6-dimethylcycloocta-1,5-diene.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The process as claimed in ~~any of claims 5 to 7~~ claim 5, wherein the reaction is carried out in the absence of a solvent or in the presence of an aprotic solvent.

Claim 9 (Original): A cationic polymerization process which comprises polymerizing cationically polymerizable ethylenically unsaturated monomers in the presence of a substituted cycloalkane of the formula I as claimed in claim 1 and a Lewis acid.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the compound of the formula I is 1,5-dichloro-1,5-dimethylcyclooctane and/or 1,4-dichloro-1,4-dimethylcyclooctane.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The process as claimed in claim 9 ~~or 10~~, wherein the cationically polymerizable ethylenically unsaturated monomers include isobutene.